



STATE OF MINNESOTA

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

February 3, 2016

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The Honorable Jim Mortenson
Minnesota Office of Administrative Hearings
P.O. Box 64620
St. Paul, Minnesota 55164-0620

Re: Comments of the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Division of Energy Resources
Docket No. E131, 017/C-15-176
OAH Docket No. 5-2500-32357

Dear Judge Mortenson:

This letter is in response to the Settlement Agreement reached by Otter Tail Power Company and PKM Electric Cooperative in the above referenced docket, and submitted to you on February 1, 2016.

The Department has reviewed the Settlement Agreement and believes that:

- Paragraph 4 – Service-by-Exception;
- Paragraph 5 – Recording;
- Attachment 2 – Map of Original Site and New Site; and
- Attachment 3 – Map of Area Containing Other Possible Donaldson Sites

provide information that adequately address the issues presented in this proceeding.

The Department recommends that the case be forwarded to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for disposition pursuant to Minn. R. 7829.2100. The Department supports approval of the parties' Settlement Agreement by the Commission and revision of the Commission's service territory maps to reflect the written service-by-exception in the Settlement Agreement.

Sincerely,

/s/ Peter E. Madsen

Peter E. Madsen

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